

**Notice of Public Meeting of a Public Body**  
Sections 7.6, 7.7.4 and 7.9.1  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE –**  
***Governor's Forest Health Council***

Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431, notice is hereby given to the members of the Forest Health Council and to the general public that the **Forest Health Council** will hold a meeting open to the public:

**June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 4 pm – 7 pm (Business Meeting and Presentations)**  
**Eagar Town Hall**  
**174 S. Main Street, Eagar, AZ 85925**

**June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 8 am – 3 pm (Field Trip)**  
**Meet @ Apache – Sitgreaves National Forest Supervisors Office**  
**30 S. Chiricahua Rd., Springerville, AZ 85938**

**Meeting Minutes**

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**Meeting Objective:** To review and discuss the Statewide Assessment and Strategy, to hear presentations on the White Mountain Stewardship Contract, to attend a field trip to see forest treatments on the ground, visit industry to see how small-diameter wood is being utilized; and visit a current forest treatment project to view machinery as it is working.

**Wednesday – June 9<sup>th</sup>**

**1) Call to Order ~ 4:10 p.m.**

Members Present:

Co-Chair Molly Pitts, Steve Rosenstock, Steve Gatewood, Vicki Christiansen, Brenda Burman, Rob Davis, Larry Stephenson for Mark Herrington, Don Berry, Christine Dawe for Tom Klabunde, and Wally Covington

Members Absent:

Co-Chair Ethan Aumack, Todd Schulke, Don Falk, John Metzger, Mike Neal, Ron Williams, Darryl Willis, Mayor Sara Presler

Public:

A-S Forest Supervisor Chris Knopp, Sarah Hurteau (TNC), Sue Sitko (TNC), Bob Taylor (FS), Ed Collins (FS), Bruce Greco (ERI), Diane Vosick (ERI), Jim Pitts (FS), Jerry Drury (FS), Jonathan Brooks (White Mountain Apache Tribe)

**2) Approval of the Minutes from the May FHC Meeting**

- Minutes approved w/ modification that both Steve Gatewood and Steve Rosenstock were present.
- Minutes posted to website with modifications.

**3) Summary of Council Business Since Last FHC Meeting**

- Brenda asked if Ethan or Molly had followed up with Kevin Kinsall? Molly replied that neither had followed-up yet, but would do so following the meeting. Vicki also stated that she would be meeting with him the following week and would follow-up with Kevin.

**4) State Forestry Division**

- Assessment Project Presentation~ Steve Gatewood and Glen Buettner
  - Steve gave a brief overview of the entire process and said they would be finishing up soon.
  - Comments could be incorporated until Monday – June 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - The document would be sent to the Forest Service on June 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Not planning on publishing many documents as the document will be ever changing as more data becomes available. Will be put on the State Forestry website.
  - The Assessment team will meet with Ethan and Molly in September to go over what the results of the Assessment/Strategy and how the council can best interact.

## 5) Overview of the White Mountain Stewardship Contract ~ Chris Knopp, A-S Forest Supervisor

- Regional Office review went well – final report out in mid-late June
- Fuels treatments are meeting multiple objectives
- Sherman/Bonnie/Kirkpatrick visit went well – stated that 4-FRI project bests meets their vision for collaborative landscape forest restoration.
- Comments for Bob Taylor (Timber Staff Officer on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest)
  - ❖ Don't build a contract like the WMSC – needs to be more flexible
  - ❖ The local collaborative process is very good
  - ❖ Scale of the WMSC not adequate enough to bring costs down
  - ❖ FS continually looking for ways to bring cost down

## 6) Treatment Prescriptions / Mechanized Harvesting ~ Jim Pitts, A-S Zone Silviculturist (Alpine/Springerville)

- Available for viewing at <http://www.azgovernor.gov/fhc/presentations.asp>
- Steve Gatewood asked about silvicultural treatments vs. restoration treatments – Jim replied that they are not necessarily different and explained to the group we would be seeing examples during the field trip.

## 7) Dinner

## 8) 5-Year Monitoring Report ~ Sue Sitko and Sarah Hurteau, TNC

- Available for viewing at <http://www.azgovernor.gov/fhc/presentations.asp>
- Sue encouraged everyone involved with 4-FRI to truly consider the percentage/amount of funding needed for monitoring.

## 9) Lessons Learned on Contracting ~ Jerry Drury, A-S Timber Staff

- ❖ Jerry had the following comments regarding what the White Mountain Stewardship Contract has been able to accomplish:
- ❖ Engaging interested local organizations through a more collaborative process.
- ❖ Work with local communities to create jobs, and develop new businesses to boost struggling rural economies.
- ❖ Improve environmental conditions in the public lands
- ❖ Collaboration with the states and local communities is integral to this effort and will be essential in identifying resource management outcomes.
- ❖ Involve states, counties, local communities and interested stakeholders in a public process to provide input on how to implement this new management tool.
- ❖ In the WMS RFP: The purpose of this Request For Proposals (RFP) is to combine *all separate operations* into one Stewardship Performance Based Service Contract, to maximize efficiency of operation and provide a for a healthier forest. (In the 80's Projects/Timber Sales used to be open for years between a sawlog, pulpwood and finally TSI treatments. Drove the FS and enviros crazy.)
- ❖ What the WMSC doesn't do is fulfill an RO assumption that in 3 years the cost for treatment will be \$200/acre

**10) Work Being Done on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ~ Jonathan Brooks, Tribal Forester and Ed Collins, A-S Lakeside District Ranger**

- Showed map of the Rodeo-Chediski Fire and explained how the previous forest management treatments helped to slow or stop the fire.
- Explained that FATCO (Fort Apache Timber Company) did not make the transition to small diameter logs because of employment reasons
- 60-80% unemployment is typical on the reservation
- In the past – FATCO/the Tribe have harvested between 40-80 million board feet – employing 300-400 tribal members.
- Currently have 70 employees working at FATCO
- The Tribe received \$6 million from ARRA to move and rebuild the tree nursery in Whiteriver and to complete further BAER work on the Rodeo-Chediski fire
- The Tribe is working with the A-S National Forest on a TFPA project (Tribal Forest Protection Act) to complete thinning near Los Burros - North of the McNary community. The tribe is helping to meet the match by marking the trees on the National Forest.

**11) Meeting Schedule and Locations**

- a. July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010, Flagstaff

**12) Call to the Public ~ No comment**

*This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not on the agenda. Therefore, action taken as results of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further considerations and decisions at a later date.*

**Thursday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

8 am ~ Meet at A-S Supervisors Office

8:15 ~ Travel to Lakeside Ranger District – visit McKay task order

11:30 – 12:30 ~ travel to Eagar South – visit treatment area – Jim Pitts

1:00 ~ Visit Round Valley Wholesale Lumber and Arizona Log and TimberWorks

The day will conclude with a tour of the Forest Energy Pellet Plant in Show Low for those who are interested.

**Council members and members of the public and 4-FRI stakeholder group will need to pack a lunch. Coolers will be provided.**

*Dated this June 21st, 2010*  
*Governor's Forest Health Council*  
<http://www.governor.state.az.us/FHC/>

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**CO-CHAIRS**

Ethan Aumack – Grand Canyon Trust

Molly Pitts, Northern Arizona Wood Products Association

Person with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Krista Olson-Blundell 602-771-1183 or kristao@azcommerce.com. Requests should be made as early as possible to arrange the accommodation.